



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

May 5, 2010

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To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair  
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Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title of the Chief Executive Officer.

## **SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

This memorandum includes a status on County-sponsored legislation related to information sharing for the prevention, identification, management or treatment of child abuse or neglect; a pursuit of County position on a State Budget item to fund local public safety programs; a report on actions taken by the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees related to Child Welfare Services funding; and updates on three County-advocacy measures related to: 1) the Dispute Resolution Program; 2) increased penalties for sexual assaults committed against minor children; and 3) civil actions for offenses committed against homeless persons.

### **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**

**County-sponsored AB 2322 (Feuer)**, which would clarify and strengthen the ability of county departments to share records for the prevention, identification, management or treatment of child abuse or neglect was amended on April 29, 2010. The amendments would expand the data that may be entered on the Family and Children's Index to include: 1) a child or family in need of child welfare services; 2) the name, address, telephone number, and date and place of birth of all persons living in the child's home; and 3) convictions of family members and persons living in the child's home that involve a child as a victim. As amended, the measure also would allow CalWORKs managers to share information and participate on the Multidisciplinary Teams. AB 2322 is an urgency measure needed to ensure the safety of children and families by helping county employees better identify instances of child abuse and neglect. If this measure is enacted by the Legislature, it would become effective immediately upon the Governor's signature.

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"*

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AB 2322 is a County-sponsored measure and the County Welfare Directors Association and Services Employees International Union recently agreed to co-sponsor. The measure is scheduled for a hearing in the Assembly Human Services Committee on May 11, 2010.

**Pursuit of County Position on a State Budget Item**

**Public Safety Funding.** In February 2009, the Governor signed the FY 2008-09 Special Session Budget Adjustments and the FY 2009-10 State Budget Act to address a projected \$42.0 billion budget shortfall through June 30, 2010. The final budget package shifted funding for local public safety programs from the State General Fund to the Vehicle License Fee (VLF), which was temporarily increased by 0.65 percent to 1.12 percent of a vehicle's market value, and directed 0.15 percent of the VLF increase to the Local Safety and Protection Account (LSPA) to fund the following programs:

ALLOCATIONS TO THE LOCAL SAFETY AND PROTECTION ACCOUNT	
PROGRAM	PERCENTAGE
Citizens' Options for Public Safety (COPS)	21.30%
Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) Grants	21.30%
Booking Fees (Local Detention Facility Revenue)	6.26%
Small and Rural County Sheriffs Grants	3.68%
Juvenile Probation Funding	30.19%
Juvenile Camps and Ranches Funding; and	5.85%
Various programs administered through the California Emergency Management Agency.	11.42%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Local Safety and Protection Account funds are allocated by the State Controller to cities and counties to: 1) reimburse local law enforcement for certain booking and detention expenses; 2) support juvenile justice programs including prevention services operated by community-based agencies; 3) support specialized law enforcement task forces and training programs to suppress use of illegal drugs, sexual assaults, gang activity and technological theft; and 4) support juvenile probation services including camps.

The Vehicle License Fee increase became effective May 19, 2009 and it is scheduled to expire on July 1, 2011. The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) notes that for FY 2010-11, funding for local public safety programs will not be addressed as part of the State Budget process. CSAC also indicates that the nature of the new funding mechanism does not allocate a stable level of funding for each program because VLF revenues are subject to a number of variable factors such as consumers' unpredictable buying habits and the economy.

In August 2009, the Department of Finance estimated VLF revenue for the LSPA of \$497.0 million in FY 2009-10; however, the projection was adjusted down by \$78.0 million to \$419.0 million in the Governor's FY 2010-11 Proposed Budget. Los Angeles County is estimated to receive 20 percent of the VLF revenue. The LSPA allocations to fund local public safety programs are scheduled to end when the VLF increase expires on July 1, 2011. Neither the Governor nor the Legislature is currently considering proposals to maintain funding for these programs.

The Sheriff's Department indicates that it receives VLF funding for the Citizens' Options for Public Safety, Booking Fees, California Multi-jurisdictional Methamphetamine Enforcement Team and High Technology Theft Apprehension and Prosecution programs. The Probation Department indicates that this funding is critically needed to maintain the numerous programs funded by the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act and the Juvenile Probation Camp Fund.

Therefore, consistent with existing Board policies to: 1) preserve the County's VLF revenue base; 2) support proposals to ensure that each county receives annual funding for juvenile probation services in an amount at least equal to the Federal TANF grant funds received by counties in Federal Fiscal Year 1995; 3) support proposals to provide full funding for the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act; and 4) support proposals to provide funding for prevention and intervention program for youth at risk of becoming involved or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system, **the Sacramento advocates will work with the California State Association of Counties, the Urban Counties Caucus, and others to secure ongoing funding for local public safety programs via an extension of the VLF increase, a full appropriation in the State General Fund or other viable funding mechanism.**

#### **Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittee Actions on Child Welfare Services Funding**

In July 2009, the Governor vetoed \$80.0 million in Child Welfare Services (CWS) funding from the FY 2009-10 State Budget Act, which resulted in an estimated County loss of \$18.9 million. On April 22, 2010, the Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Health and Human Services restored \$74.6 million in CWS funding for FY 2010-11 by a

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vote of 2 to 0, and on April 28, 2010, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health and Human Services restored \$80.0 million in CWS funding for FY 2010-11 by a vote of 6 to 0.

#### **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation**

**County-supported AB 1718 (Monning)**, which would have increased civil court filing fees from local dispute resolution programs from \$8 to \$13 was amended on April 27, 2010 to remove the specified amount of the fee increase. The amended bill has been referred to the Department of Community and Senior Services for analysis. AB 1718 is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**County-supported AB 1844 (Fletcher)**, which would enact the Chelsea King Child Predator Prevention Act to increase penalties for forcible sex acts against minors, was amended on April 28, 2010. The amendments would increase sentences for persons convicted of an assault on a person under 18 years of age with the intent to commit specified sexual offenses, and would increase the types of offenses which would be subject to imprisonment for 25 years to life. The amended bill has been forwarded to the affected impacted departments for analysis. AB 1844 is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

**County-supported AB 2706 (Lowenthal)**, which as amended on April 20, 2010, would: 1) provide that the protections and remedies of the Ralph Civil Rights Act include violence or intimidation by threat of violence committed against a person or property because the person is or is perceived to be homeless; and 2) define a homeless person to mean a person who does not have a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, or a person that has a nighttime residence such as a supervised, publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living accommodations. This measure passed the Assembly Appropriations on April 29, 2010 by a vote of 10 to 5, and it now proceeds to the Assembly Floor.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA  
MR:VE:GA:sb

c: All Department Heads  
Legislative Strategist